

Message Text

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70

ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 EB-07 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 FMC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 CG-00 OFA-01 DLOS-04

TRSE-00 H-02 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 SAB-01 /059 W

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R 182025Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5821

INFO PANCANAL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EEWT, EWWT, PN, CU

SUBJECT: RESTRICTIONS ON CUBAN-PANAMANIAN TRADE THROUGH CANAL ZONE

REF: (A) PANAMA 6056 (B) STATE 242009

1. CARGO PASSING THROUGH A CANAL ZONE PORT WOULD BE LOADED OR UNLOADED ON PIER CONTROLLED AND TO LARGE EXTENT OPERATED BY PANAMA CANAL COMPANY. PANCANAL EMPLOYEES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL PIER HANDLING OPERATIONS AT CRISTOBAL AND BALBOA PORTS, ALL STEVEDORING OPERATIONS AT BALBOA, AND APPROXIMATELY 75 PERCENT OF STEVEDORING AT CHRISTOBAL.

2. PIER 3 IN COLON IS USED FOR SOME GENERAL CARGO SHIPMENTS, INCLUDING TO AND FROM COLON FREE ZONE, AND IS MOST LIKELY BEING UTILIZED AT PRESENT FOR CUBA TRADE. IT COULD IN ANY CASE BE SO USED. INTEREST IN UTILIZING CHRISTOBAL; HOWEVER, IS LIKELY TO CONTINUE AND IN FACT INCREASE AS CUBA TRADE GROWS, BECAUSE COLON PIER CAN ACCOMMODATE ONLY SMALLER SHIPS AND LACKS PIER FACILITIES AVAILABLE AT ADJACENT CHRISTOBAL PORT. LOCAL PRESS REPORTS VISITING CUBAN DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER TORRAS DE LA LUZ AND LOCAL CUBAN AMBASSADOR DISCUSSED POSSIBILITY OF OPERATING WAREHOUSE IN COLON FREE ZONE FOR EXPORTATION OF GOODS TO CUBA WITH FREE ZONE AUTHORITIES LAST WEEK.

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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